

From: John Herber
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/17/02 6:02pm
Subject: Microsoft has abused it's market position

To whomever is listening,

I still feel that a break up of Microsoft would be the best solution. It's the only way you can assure that they won't abuse their Monopoly position as the dominant OS.

But since a Break up isn't going to happen, the playing field must be leveled. Companies hurt by Microsoft should get some of Microsoft's profits. Giving some software to schools is seems nice, but how does that help the companies that Microsoft bullied out of business. When someone is caught cheating in a game, they don't get to keep the winnings they received unfairly. It goes back to the players that were cheated. I don't care what the details are, but Microsoft should not be allowed to take out the competition. Then from on top of those companies remains give some software to some schools and act as though they are being charitable. When the real motive of there actions is to become an even bigger Monopoly. Can they wipe out some other area of business and then plan on giving some money away and then that makes it "all better". The real question is do you want Microsoft to continue to do this. If not, then punish them to the point that they say "we'll never do that again". So far all I can see is encouragement for Microsoft to go right on doing what they've always done. This is not the first act of abuse, if you don't punish them they will continue to force other companies out of business. The fact that their proposed solution to the problem was to extend their monopoly into the education market proves that they have no remorse. Please send a message to them and to other companies. We have made the rules of fair competition, we need to make sure all companies follow those rules, and that there are consequences for breaking those rules. If there are no consequences for abusing Monopoly power, why is the DOJ wasting taxpayer's dollars trying to enforce a empty law.

Thank you,

John Herber
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Magnetic Poetry